

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the **language**, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:

- ☐ international search (under Rules 12.3 and 23.1(b))
☐ publication of the international application (under Rule 12.4)
☐ international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3)

2. With regard to the **elements** of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*.

☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished

☒ the description:

pages 1-23 as originally filed/furnished

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the claims:

Nos. 1-10 as originally filed/furnished

Nos.* 11-16 as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

Nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

Nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☒ the drawings:

sheets/figs 1/2-2/2 as originally filed/furnished

sheets/figs* _____ received by this Authority on _____

sheets/figs* _____ received by this Authority on _____

☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) - see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.

3. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*) _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*) _____

4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).

☐ the description, pages _____

☐ the claims, Nos. _____

☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____

☐ the sequence listing (*specify*) _____

☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*) _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded".

CLAIMS AMENDED UNDER ARTICLE 19 PCT ON MAY 14, 2004

1. An electrode catalyst, comprising:
a conductive carrier, and
a mixture containing a particulate noble metal and at least one particulate rare-earth oxide, the mixture being supported on said conductive carrier wherein said particulate rare-earth oxide has an alkaline-earth metal as solid solution therein.
2. The electrode catalyst according to claim 1, wherein said conductive carrier is a particulate carbon.
3. The electrode catalyst according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said noble metal is silver, platinum, or palladium.
4. The electrode catalyst according to claim 1 or 2, wherein said noble metal is silver.
5. The electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the molar ratio of said noble metal to said rare-earth oxide is from 1 : 0.01 to 1 : 4.0.
6. The electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 5, wherein said rare-earth oxide is cerium oxide.
7. The electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 6, wherein said alkaline-earth metal is at least one selected from a group consisting of magnesium, calcium, and strontium.

8. The electrode catalyst according to claim 6, wherein the molar ratio of said cerium oxide to said alkaline-earth metal is from 1 : 0.005 to 1 : 0.3.

9. The electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 8 for use in a gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis.

10. A gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis, characterized by use of the electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 9.

11. (Amended) An electrode catalyst for use in a gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis comprising a conductive carrier, and a mixture containing a particulate noble metal and at least one particulate rare-earth oxide, the mixture being supported on the conductive carrier.

12. (Amended) A gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis characterized by using the electrode catalyst according to claim 11.

13. (Amended) A process for preparing a gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis comprising laminating a reaction layer containing the electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 9, a gas diffusion layer containing a conductive carrier, and a collector.

14. (Amended) Use of the electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 9 in a gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis.

15. (Amended) A method for using the electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 9,

characterized in that the electrode catalyst is used as a catalyst component for the reaction layer of a gas diffusion electrode for brine electrolysis.

16. (Amended) A method for gas diffusion electrode-based brine electrolysis, comprising using the electrode catalyst according to any of claims 1 to 9.